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9th FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY OF SOUTH VIET NAM NFL

(December 20, 1960—December 20, 1969)

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PLAF onset against the enemy

WHEN a tree stands up to the most violent winds, it becomes deeply rooted in the soil where it grows. It is the same with the South Vietnamese National Front for Liberation. For nine years, the US has been trying, with most formidable means, to crush it in the military field and drown its voice on the political and diplomatic fields. The NFL continues to grow and to assert itself more and more firmly as the only viable political and military force in the face of a terrorist administration in Saigon. By quite a natural evolution, it has become the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam. Its delegates are now facing in Paris the representatives of the US and whose organs at all levels are effectively running 3/5 of the territory.

THE secret of that extraordinary vitality lies first in the legitimacy of the NFL and PRG. They were born on the day when the South Vietnamese people, aware of the three points to national independence, peace and daily freedoms by the US imperialists' plots and ambitions, rose up and condemned the patriotic and popular resistance which had got the letter of French-colonialism and set up a democratic regime over their territories. This proposed resistance (anti-US) is heir to the first one just as that one had taken over all the national and popular aspirations not yet fulfilled by

former movements. For two millennia, Viet Nam's history has been an uninterrupted succession of fierce struggles for national independence. For a century, the fight against colonialism has been the epicentre of national life and the main effort against US neo-colonialism is within the framework of a necessary and irresistible historical development.

Though the founding of the NFL occurred in 1960, its origins are very remote. South Viet Nam evolution from 1945 to 1960 is one does not remember the darkest period from 1954 to 1960 when Ngo Dinh Diem, armed and advised by the US, tried to impose his control over the entire country. Implementing the Geneva agreements, the people's armed forces were reorganized to the North and the South Viet Nam. They found themselves defeated in face of an inexorable enemy. Washington was well aware that the routine neo-colonialist tricks, the ground-sweeping, the constitutional shop-window and demagogic manœuvres could hardly hoodwink a highly combative and most politically minded people.

The only choice left for US domination, even though disguised under a "national government", lay in the systematic suppression of all patriotic and revolutionary movement; the only chance of survival for a feudal ruler was the abolition of all democratic reforms achieved in the first resistance and the crushing of all opposition.

The overwhelming majority of the people got involved little by little in a daily multifarious struggle against US rule, the result of all obscene "liberation" and land grabbing by feudalists, sabotages of the Geneva agreements and perpetuation of the partition of the country.

A grim battle was waged in the countryside for land ownership and for freedom; it was arduous but the level of their wages, TU rights and political liberties; and the intelligentsia had to fight for the preservation of their cultural heritage. In the highlands, the ethnic minorities vigorously set their faces against the return of discriminatory practices; the various religious organiza-

tions rose up to defend their freedom against an administration which obviously pursued a policy of religious discrimination.

Each inhabitant, each social class, each group had thus to fight against a ferocious regime.

At one moment or another each of them was caught on the horns of a dilemma: either surrender and serve as a tool for an inferior regime, betray his fellow countrymen and the revolution, or stand up and wage a more and more stubborn struggle. The South Vietnamese people plumped for the second choice. Little by little, a vast network and *phuoc binh* was built up, which size and solidarity could withstand fierce repression. The more intense the repression by the US, the more tenacious the more stubborn the resistance. And finally the repression grew into a real unilateral war waged by sizeable army and police units.

By 1960, the purely political resistance — meetings, petitions, demonstrations, strikes, delegations — had proved inadequate in face of

an enemy who did not flinch from any means. Tens of thousands were murdered; hundreds of thousands of others were deported; all those who had directly or indirectly taken part in the first resistance were those who did not implement the agreements; national reunification, re-establishment of normal relations with the North were violated. Everyone without exception, even (puppet) ministers, was at the mercy of a denunciation and ran the risk of being tortured to death, executed without trial or deported for life.

For most of the people, the alternative was no more to fight or to resign oneself to one's fate but to fight and defend their face extermination and take arms. The South Vietnamese did not let themselves taken to the slaughter-house; they flew to arms. They cracked their teeths savagely. US placemen were punished, the Diem administration was shattered at the base (i.e. village level), while

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9th Founding Anniversary of South Vietnam NFL

FROM THE SOUTH VIET NAM NFL TO THE PRG

(Continued from page 1)

villages, then whole areas were freed from American grip. This was made its appearance in which the people organized themselves to carry on the struggle and build a new society.

The tasks required then coordinated actions, a unified direction, the proclamation of clear-cut objectives on the national and international planes. On November 20, 1955, the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation was established, which did not start from scratch, but gathered various organizations, groups and personalities who during many years had put up an active and effective organization of economic and social

counter offensive of the US. The "people's war"—which clearly combines political and armed struggle, aimed at armed struggle waged simultaneously by local, regional and regular forces, with rudimentary and popular weapons, in rural areas, in mountain areas and urban areas—ended in a victory over the US-Diem war machine. Diem was toppled in 1963, and the puppet army suffered its most crushing reverses 1964 and 1965, while thousands of strategical villages were destroyed by the inhabitants. The free areas, where progressive self-managing committees took charge of the local administration and organization of economic and social



A guerilla artillery unit

SOON the NFL laid down its policy in clear and concise terms: to liberate the country from US domination, overthrow of the pro-US puppet government, formation of a democratic coalition government, ultimate peaceful reunification of the country, a foreign policy of peace and neutrality.

The American reacted violently.

In order to ward off disaster, Washington had to come to terms with the NFL, and now the PRG has emerged as the genuine representative of the South Vietnamese people qualified to see to all problems concerning South Viet Nam.

The ten-point "solution" put forth by the NFL was representative on November 20, 1955. It was not a simple "maquis," but an organization having a broad popular basis and an efficient political, military and administrative structure solidly implanted in the masses. Internationally, since 1955, it has set up representations in many countries.

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In urban centers, US occupation and its atrocities stirred up the social classes which so far had virtually kept aloof from the struggle. The Alliance of National Democracy and People's

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MILITARY OPERATIONS

Three Provincial Capitals and More Than 100 Enemy Military Bases and Positions in the Mekong Delta Hit on the Night of Dec. 3.

- Raid on a Police Training Centre in Da Lat: Serious Enemy Losses and Damage.
- Two Colonels (One US and One Puppet) and Several Officers Killed in a PLAF-Downed Helicopter.

ON the night of Dec. 2 the PLAF mounted a series of violent attacks in the 3 populous provinces of the Mekong Delta. *Giao Phong* Press Agency reported:

About 10 km Southwest of Saigon, dozens of enemy positions were hit in the province of My Tho, on the left bank of the Mekong. The provincial capital was subjected to several assaults particularly directed against the HQ of the puppet 7th Division, the divisional military training centre, the HQ of the puppet 1st armored regiment, the naval base, etc.

On the other bank of the river, in the provinces of Ben Tre, 150 targets came under attack, especially in the provincial capital and less important urban centres. The PLAF inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in the HQ of a regiment of puppet Division 1, the HQ of the province police and several "pacification" teams, de-

stroyed or decimated 6 companies and 4 platoons of civil guards.

To the West of Saigon, near the Cambodian border, the enemy positions in the province of Kien Giang also had hit off the night of Dec. 2, particularly in Ma Da city and at a military sub-sector headquarters, CL' 202.

At Lang Khot, Tuyen Biak sub-sector CL' 202 enemy troops were put out of action in 25 minutes.

The same source reported that 150 adverse soldiers were knocked out during PLAF attacks in Cai Lay, a district of My Tho province, on the night of Dec. 2.

The patriots in the Bu Dap area, 30 km North of Saigon, on Dec. 2 and Dec. 3 wiped out 235 enemy troops, destroyed 3 choppers and destroyed 10 armoured cars.

On the other hand, according to foreign news agencies, the PLAF kept up their actions in the 3 days ending

Dec. 9, the most important ones were those directed against a police training centre in Da Lat city (30 km Northwest of Saigon). Dec. 7, the PLAF carried out an intense 13 hour-barrack-bombing, the HQ of the US First Air Cavalry in Phu Nhieu (lookin' North-Western part of Saigon, Dec. 9), an intense column of the US 25th Infantry Division (some 40 km Northwest of Saigon, Dec. 9), and a position of the American Division near Chu Lai (on the Southeast of Da Nang). According to the US-puppet Command, 200 of its men were killed or wounded in these operations.

The same source further reported that on Dec. 6, the PLAF had downed a helicopter Southwest of Chu Lai, killing all its passengers including a US colonel, a puppet colonel commanding a combat zone and several other officers.

On the night of Dec. 10 the PLAF bombarded dozens of targets including Long Binh logistic base, Bien Hoa airbase and Da Nang base.

On Orders from RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government

PLAF To Keep Christmas and New Year 3-Day Truces

IMPLEMENTING the Dec. 2 decision of the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam, the PLAF has issued orders on suspension of military attacks on US satellite and puppet troops from 7 hours GMT Dec. 24 to 7 hours GMT Dec. 27 and from 7 hours GMT Dec. 30 to 7 hours GMT January 2, 1970.

While the US imperialists and their lackeys are frantically preparing for the criminal war of aggression against our country and blocking the progress of the Paris Conference—which only stifles them rather than the determination of our people to fight till final victory—this measure is a further proof of the PRG humanitarian policy. At the same time, the people are exhorted to keep vigilantly and firmly to punish all truce violations by the enemy such as military operations, reconnaissance and espionage, bombardments, spraying of noxious chemicals.

In reply to this measure of the PRG, the US and quislings, through Nguyen Van Thieu's mouth, have cynically declared to halt hostilities only for 24 hours only on each occasion.

SUSPENSION OF PLAF ATTACKS ON FILIPINO TROOPS SINCE DEC. 7

On Dec. 7 the PLAF command issued another order enabling Filipino troops—whose complete withdrawal from South Viet Nam before December 25 had been decided by Manila—to have a chance of going home safe and sound. From that date, the PLAF will not attack the Filipinos on the condition that the latter will cancel their annual calendar and pull out routes announced, refrain from hostile and harmful acts against the lives and property of the people, fly their flags and keep from camping and travelling in company with US and puppet troops and other foreign mercenaries in order not to be mistaken for these.

Saigon Press Critical of Puppet Administration over SON MY Massacre

A *Giao Phong* press correspondent in Saigon wrote that the press in Saigon had catalogued the puppet authorities' attempts at tempting to whitewash the Son My massacre of over 100 civilians by GIs in the face of some of its authors' confessions.

Tren Noi (Saigon) wrote on Nov. 30: "We long to ask: Since when has the [puppet] administration been aware of the Quang Ngai [Son My] affair? Is it possible that only now we manage to know it after its disclosure by Washington? An 'incident', it was claimed. At the beginning, they tried to eat the leek, but as if there have been piling up and the horror has been taking bigger proportions in the course of

the investigations made in the US, we cannot continue to swallow it despite our good will and we now set our faces against this affirmation!"

The *Chauk Irau* (Rangoon) commented on December 2: "The masses are astonished at the quite incomprehensible lack of responsibility shown by those who themselves Vietnamese, but deny the Son My massacre. The Vietnamese [puppet] authorities' statements clash with one another. It is one all done. It is the intention to push up the truth which has urged the directly responsible officials to find an explanation for the lack of reason and conscience. This opinion is again incurred when it sees the subjectiveness and lie in face of

an offence acknowledged by its perpetrators themselves and wonders how some people can turn a blind eye to a mass murder of their fellow-countrymen. They are so anxious to vindicate themselves and shirk their responsibility. This attitude only stirs up a hornets' nest among public opinion."

"The Son My affair is for the Vietnamese people," *Chauk Irau* went on, "another lesson which opens their eyes to the existence of those who betray their Fatherland for the sake of their interests and have been made so callous by money and ambition that they don't even shed a tear over the death of hundreds of innocents at Son My."



Puppet troops taken prisoner at Tra Cao (Tay Ninh)